



FIRST THINGS FIRST

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June 4, 2010

First Things First State Board
4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800
Phoenix, Arizona 85201

Chair Lynn and Members of the First Things First Board:

The Central Pima Regional Partnership Council is pleased to propose to the First Things First Board a new coordination strategy for your consideration of approval. The Regional Council has identified a new coordination strategy, *Early Education Promise Partnership* for Fiscal Year 2011 (one year only), which facilitates a collaborative opportunity to partner with the Flowing Wells School District, specifically for families that reside in or near the Central Pima zip code, 85705 to ensure the following:

- The educational and care needs of young children participating in the Flowing Wells high quality early learning program is accessible and affordable to families with children who exhibit high risk needs;
- The community support center, which is part of the Emily Meschter Flowing Wells Early Learning Center continues to remain open as an available resource to families and young children to access services, supports and community events; and
- Engage in a coordinated, community partnership with the Flowing Wells School District, La Paloma Family Services, Arizona Center for Children and Families, the Revive 05 Coalition, Councilwoman Karen Uhlich's Office, University of Arizona, the Office of Congressman Raul Grijalva, Office of the Pima County School Superintendent, Literacy for Life Coalition with support from Paxis Institute, Pima Community College and private philanthropists to secure a Promise Neighborhood Federal Grant for the Flowing Wells 85705 zip code.

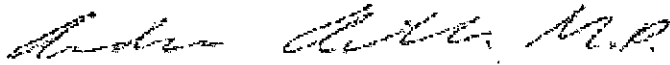
The Central Pima Regional Council approved the implementation of this coordination strategy in Fiscal Year 2011, with a government to government agreement, using \$130,000 from the Fiscal Year 2011 Fund Balance, pending the approval by the First Things First Board.

On May 5, the Regional Council engaged in an extensive discussion related to the significant gaps in resources and services for young children and their families that reside in the Flowing Wells School District, specifically in the Central Pima zip code 85705. Several assessments, including the Central Pima Needs and Assets report, indicate the 85705 zip code as having minimal resources but extenuating need. Several community residents and agencies have been working in a coordinated

Central Pima Regional Partnership Council

effort at the organizational and grass-roots levels to improve the community of 85705, which include goals that align with the mission and vision of First Things First, such as strengthening families and increasing access to high quality educational opportunities beginning at the early childhood level.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Arthur, M.D.", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Andrew Arthur, Chair,
Central Pima Regional Partnership Council



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

CENTRAL PIMA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL 2011 FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation 2011: \$9,034,787

Carry Forward from 2010: \$355,450

Funding Available for Allocation in 2011: \$ 9,390,237

Prioritized Needs	Goal Area	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Limited access to high quality early care and education programs and settings that provide an individualized continuum of support.	Quality and Access	Strategy 1 – Quality First	\$1,020,300	Approved January 26, 2010
Limited access to literacy based support services.	Family Support	Strategy 2 – Early Literacy and Language Coaches working with center based programs	\$78,500	Approved January 26, 2010
Lack of professional development opportunities tied to college credit.	Professional Development	Strategy 3- Innovative Professional Development	\$701,400	Approved January 26, 2010
Lack of highly qualified professionals to serve all children birth through age five.	Professional Development	Strategy 4- T.E.A.C.H.	\$675,000	Approved January 26, 2010
Limited access to quality health care services for high risk families.	Family Support Health	Strategy 5- Home Visitation for High-Risk Families (Nurse Family /Community Health Worker home visiting program)	\$1,600,000	Approved January 26, 2010
Limited access to high quality early care and education programs and settings that provide an individualized continuum of care.	Quality and Access	Strategy 6- Expansion of Infant and Toddler Care	\$630,000	Approved January 26, 2010
Limited access to comprehensive family education and support services.	Family Support	Strategy 7- Home Visitation and Community-Based Parent Education	\$750,000	Approved January 26, 2010

Lack of highly qualified professionals to serve all children birth through age five.	Professional Development	Strategy 8- Professional REWARD\$	\$450,000	Approved January 26, 2010
Inadequate number of professionals to address the behavioral health needs of young children.	Health	Strategy 9- Mental Health Consultation	\$500,000	Approved January 26, 2010
Limited access to parent education and information.	Family Support	Strategy 10– Expansion of Parent Kits	\$25,000	Approved January 26, 2010
Limited access to affordable early care and education	Access and Affordability	Economic Stabilization of Families	\$2,000,000	Approved February 23, 2010
Lack of highly qualified professionals to serve all children birth through age five.	Professional Development	Professional Career Pathways Project	\$100,000	Approved February 23, 2010
High quality early learning programs and supports for parents	Quality Access and Affordability/ Coordination	Early Education Promise Partnership	\$130,000	Recommend Approval
		Communications	\$150,000	Recommend Approval
		Regional Needs & Assets	\$ 0	Approved January 26, 2010
		Regional Evaluation	\$225,000	Not being submitted for Board approval
		Subtotal of Expenditures	\$9,035,200	
		Fund Balance	\$24,527	
		Grand Total	\$9,059,727	

Central Pima Regional Council Summary 2010-2012

	SFY 2010	SFY 2011	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
Revenue				
FTF Total Allocation for the SFY	\$9,571,194	\$9,034,787	\$9,034,787	\$27,640,76
Fund Balance (carry forward from previous SFY)	N/A	\$24,940	\$24,527	
Total Available Funds	\$9,571,194	\$9,059,727	\$9,059,314	
Strategies				
	SFY 2010 OBLIGATED	SFY 2011 PROPOSED	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
1 Quality First	\$1,020,300	\$1,020,300	\$1,020,300	\$3,060,90
2 Early Literacy and Language Coaches	\$78,500	\$78,500	\$78,500	\$235,50
3 Innovative Professional Development	\$584,449	\$701,400	\$701,400	\$1,987,24
4 T.E.A.C.H.	\$675,000	\$675,000	\$675,000	\$2,025,00
5 Home Visitation for High-Risk Families	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$4,800,00
6 Expansion of Infant and Toddler Care	\$1,049,926	\$630,000	\$630,000	\$2,309,92
7 Home-Based/Community-Based Visitation	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$2,250,00
8 FTF Professional REWARD\$	\$225,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$1,125,00
9 Mental Health Consultation	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,250,00
10 Expansion of Parent Kits	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$75,00
11 Maintain Quality to Accredited Programs	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,00
12a Communications	\$95,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$245,00
12b Community Awareness	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,00
13 Economic Stabilization of Families	\$450,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,450,00
14 Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP)	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,00
15 Early Education Promise Partnership	\$0	\$130,000	\$0	\$130,00
Emergency Food Boxes	\$45,740	\$0	\$0	\$45,74
Emergency Scholarships*	\$2,382,339	\$0	\$0	\$2,382,33
Needs and Assets	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$20,00
Evaluation	\$0	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$450,00
Subtotal Expenditures	\$9,546,254	\$9,035,200	\$8,765,200	\$27,346,65
Fund Balance (carry forward)	\$24,940	\$24,527	\$294,114	
Total	\$9,571,194	\$9,059,727	\$9,059,314	

**On January 26, 2010 the First Things First State Board approved an amendment to the contract with the emergency child care scholarships administrative home, which returned \$119,490 of unspent funds to the Central Pima Region. The \$2,382,339 reflects the unspent funds returned to the Regional Council.*

Appendix A STRATEGY WORKSHEET

Strategy #: 15

Strategy Name: Early Education Promise Partnership

Strategy Description: The *Early Education Promise Partnership* facilitates a collaborative, coordinated opportunity to partner with the Flowing Wells School District, specifically for families that reside in the Central Pima zip code, 85705 to support the following objectives:

- The educational and care needs of young children participating in the Flowing Wells high quality early learning program, the Emily Meschter Early Learning Center, continues to remain accessible and affordable to families with young children who exhibit high risk needs;
- The community support center, which is part of the Emily Meschter Flowing Wells Early Learning Center continues to remain open as an available resource to families and young children to access services, supports and community events; and
- Engage in a coordinated, community partnership with the Flowing Wells School District, La Paloma Family Services, Arizona Center for the Study of Children and Families, the Revive 05 Coalition, Councilwoman Karen Uhlich's Office, University of Arizona, the Office of Congressman Raul Grijalva, Office of the Pima County School Superintendent, Literacy for Life Coalition with support from Paxis Institute, Pima Community College and private philanthropists to secure a Promise Neighborhood Federal Grant for the Flowing Wells 85705 zip code.

An overall, coordinated infrastructure of service and supports to families, particularly those with young children is not prevalent within the 85705 community. The need for such a coordinated infrastructure is documented by several city, county and state assessments that indicate this community has limited access and availability to resources and supports yet demonstrates extenuating needs. In the 2008 Central Pima Needs and Assets report, the Flowing Wells Neighborhoods has one of the lowest median incomes (\$14,287 per capita income) in the region. In addition, the Socioeconomic Mapping and Resource Topography (SMART) System profile developed by the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention surveyed the area in 2000 and identified the 85705 community at a Community Disadvantage Rating of 8 out of a possible 10 (with 10 denoting the highest indication of disadvantage). In the Walter Douglas Elementary neighborhood alone, approximately 27% of children live in poverty while 40% of 18-24 year olds have not attained a high school degree. It is estimated the overall need has significantly increased from the SMART profile conducted approximately ten years ago. Children in families with such an economic disadvantage have less access to health care, may experience hunger and nutritional deprivation, and lack opportunities for early literacy and other services that support their optimal growth and development.

Children and families in the 85705 zip code area lack access to high quality early education opportunities. According to a Child Care Resource and Referral May 2010 report, 46 regulated or licensed early care and education programs in the 85705 zip code serve children birth to five. Of the 46 programs, two are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), three are accredited by National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education (NAC) and eight are Head Start Programs. The Flowing Wells Emily Meschter Early Learning Center is one of the two programs in the community that is accredited by

NAEYC. The mission of the Early Learning Center is to serve young children and families that fall into high risk categories such as poverty level income, single parenthood, experience family violence, etc. The Center is one of the few community hubs that offer families access a variety of resources and supports. The Flowing Wells Emily Meschter Early Learning Center has experienced unprecedented budget cuts, leading to a lack of funding to support their highly qualified early education teachers. A significant component of this strategy will work in coordinated partnership with the Flowing Wells School District to retain two certified teachers and two teaching assistants for the Flowing Wells early learning program that will continue to serve approximately 100 young children, aged three to five years so that they are afforded the opportunity to arrive at kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed. This one-time bridge support will provide the resources necessary for the Flowing Wells Emily Meschter Early Learning Center to accept registrations and continue to operate throughout the 2010-2011 school year.

A second component of the strategy is support to complete and submit a Federal planning grant that will lead to a Department of Education Promise Neighborhood Grant. The Promise Neighborhood grant is an innovative initiative that will provide a one year planning grant to support the development of plans for comprehensive neighborhood programs, modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone. To be eligible for a planning grant, an applicant must demonstrate that it has established a commitment from one or more entities in the public or private sector to provide either matching funds or in-kind donations for the planning process. The funds contributed by multiple community organizations and private philanthropists to this project will assist in leveraging existing resources and will mobilize efforts to secure additional resources to create a Promise Neighborhood. The intent is to address the effects of poverty, improve education and improve the lives of all children through a continuum of systemic supports and community infrastructure. The Promise Neighborhood Project will ensure that solutions to poverty are evidence-based and address the needs of children from birth to college in a comprehensive, coordinated continuum of services. Grantees that develop a promising proposal that include key, coordinated partnerships would be eligible to receive an implementation grant the following year. (Note: Additional information from the United States Department of Education regarding the Promise Neighborhood Grant follows the strategy worksheet.)

During the planning phase, the Flowing Wells Promise Neighborhood Project will create a plan that:

- Demonstrates the capacity to collect, analyze and use data to evaluate Flowing Wells Promise Neighborhood activities;
- Documents capacity of the lead organization to engage the community and be accountable for results;
- Uses a "place-based" approach, which leverages investments by focusing resources on targeted areas; and
- Accounts for close and coordinated integration to avoid time and resource gaps that often contribute to children missing academic and developmental milestones.

Numerous community residents and agencies, known as the Revive 05 Coalition (and soon to evolve into a new name, Thrive 05) have been strategically planning for over one year, in a coordinated effort at the organizational and grass-roots levels. The results of the strategic planning indicates several goals that align with the mission and vision of First Things First in addition to goals that have a broader focus on positively impacting and enhancing the community long-term, such as economic stabilization, creating an infrastructure of supports and resources, and minimizing crime.

The Flowing Wells 85705 Promise Neighborhoods coordinated partnership includes a number of committed, participating organizations in addition to the First Things First Central Pima Regional Partnership Council: La

Paloma Family Services, the Flowing Wells School District, Arizona Center for the Study of Children and Families, the Revive 05 Coalition, Councilwoman Karen Uhlich's Office, University of Arizona, Literacy for Life Coalition with support from Paxis Institute, Pima Community College, Congressman Raul Grijalva's Office, Office of the Pima County School Superintendent and private philanthropists.

- **Lead Goal (#13):** FTF will lead cross-system efforts among state, federal and tribal organizations to improve coordination and integration of Arizona programs, services and resources for young children and their families.
 - Specifically, this strategy aligns with Coordination Goal 13 B, which states, "Collaborate with public and private organizations to identify and apply for grants that support FTF goals."
- **Goal (#3):** FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.

Key Measures

Lead Goal (Relates to #13):

- Total number and percentage of public and private partners who report that FTF planning process and activities use family centered practices (e.g. builds on family strengths, connects families with community resources, facilitates family interaction, family and community input at all levels of decision-making).
- Total number and percentage of public and private partners' who report they are satisfied with the extent and quality of coordination between public, private and tribal systems.

Goal (Relates to #3):

- Total number of children enrolled and vacancies in regulated early care and education programs as a proportion of total population birth to age five.
- Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four.

Target Population: According to numerous needs and assessments conducted by city, county and statewide entities, the 85705 community is continually noted for the lacking resources but extenuating needs that vary greatly and create disparaging gaps. Of the thirteen zip codes that make up the Central Pima region, 85705 is the community that exhibits the most need for young children and their families. Two of the most dire needs identified in 85705 are the need for accessible and affordable, high quality care and coordinated family support services.

	SFY 2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY 2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012	SFY 2013 July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013
Proposed Service Numbers	Two teachers and two teaching assistants with the Flowing Wells Emily Meschter Early Learning Center, working with 100 children at-risk for the 2010-2011 school year. Promise Neighborhoods Grant: N/A	Fiscal Year 2011 Strategy N/A	Fiscal Year 2011 Strategy N/A

Performance Measures:

Lead Goal (Relates to #13):

- Coordination that demonstrates involvement of varied community partners and organizations.
- Coordination that demonstrates sufficiency in attaining federal funding.
- Parent satisfaction of services provided through the coordinated service delivery of the collaborating organizations.
- Number of Memorandum Of Understandings (MOU's) with service partners.
- Number of Memorandum Of Understandings (MOU's) with public & private organizations.

Goal (Relates to #3):

- Number of families receiving services through the Emily Meschter Early Learning Center.
- Number of children served through the Emily Meschter Early Learning Center.
- Cost to parents/proposed target number.

SFY 2011 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy

Allocation for proposed strategy	\$130,000
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Budget Justification:

Supporting Flowing Wells Emily Meschter Early Learning Center Staff to Sustain Operations in the 2010-2011 School Year: \$100,000

- The one-time allocation will support four staff, which includes two certified teachers and two highly-qualified teaching assistants for children aged 3-5 years. This staff will be part of a team that continues to support approximately 100 children who are considered at risk for the 2010-2011 school year.

Coordinating with Multiple Community Partners to Secure a Promise Neighborhood Planning Grant for the Flowing Wells Neighborhoods in the 85705 Zip Code: \$30,000

- This effort is noted as a one-time opportunity to invest in the community with seed funding with the prospect of a long-term return that will instill community change with a sustained and strategic focus. The funds from this strategy will be used as a portion of the match to enable the partners to apply for the grant and secure the federal funding to implement a Promise Neighborhood in the target neighborhood of 85705.
- The coordinated, community partnership with the Promise Neighborhoods Partnership includes the following organizations: La Paloma Family Services, Arizona Center for the Study of Children and Families, Flowing Wells School District, the Revive 05 Coalition, Councilwoman Karen Uhlich's Office, University of Arizona, City of Tucson and the Office of Congressman Raul Grijalva, Office of the Pima County School Superintendent, Literacy for Life Coalition with support from Paxis Institute, Pima Community College, private philanthropists and the First Things First Central Pima Regional Partnership Council.

***Additional Information on the Promise Neighborhood Grant
Taken From the United States Department of Education Website:
<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html>***

Promise Neighborhoods, established under the legislative authority of the Fund for the Improvement of Education Program (FIE), provides funding to support eligible entities, including (1) nonprofit organizations, which may include faith-based nonprofit organizations, and (2) institutions of higher education.

The program is intended to significantly improve the educational and developmental outcomes of all children in our most distressed communities, including rural and tribal communities, and to transform those communities by:

1. supporting efforts to improve child outcomes and ensure that the outcomes are communicated and analyzed on an ongoing basis by leaders and members of the community;
2. identifying and increasing the capacity of eligible entities that are focused on achieving results and building a college-going culture in the neighborhood;
3. building a continuum of academic programs and family and community supports, from the cradle through college to career, with a strong school or schools at the center;
4. integrating programs and breaking down agency "silos" so that solutions are implemented effectively and efficiently across agencies;
5. supporting the efforts of eligible entities, working with local governments, to build the infrastructure of policies, practices, systems, and resources needed to sustain and "scale up" proven, effective solutions across the broader region beyond the initial neighborhood; and
6. learning about the overall impact of Promise Neighborhoods and about the relationship between particular strategies in Promise Neighborhoods and student outcomes, including a rigorous evaluation of the program.

The Department believes that to effectively improve the outcomes for children in distressed communities, schools, academic programs, and family and community supports must include the following core features:

- a. The capacity to collect, analyze, and use data to evaluate the success of their efforts.
- b. Close integration so that time and resource gaps that contribute to children missing academic and developmental milestones do not occur.
- c. A leader and an organization that can engage the community and are accountable for results.
- d. A "place-based" approach, which leverages investments by focusing resources in targeted places, drawing on the compounding effect of well-coordinated actions.

The Promise Neighborhoods program will award one-year grants to support the development of a plan to implement a Promise Neighborhood that includes the core features described above. At the conclusion of the planning grant period, grantees should have a feasible plan to implement a continuum of solutions that will significantly improve results for children in the community being served.

In subsequent years, contingent on the availability of funds, the Department intends to conduct competitions for implementation grants, as well as competitions for new planning grants. While all eligible entities will be able to apply for implementation grants, eligible entities that have effectively carried out the planning activities described in the Notice Inviting Applications, whether independently or with a Promise Neighborhoods planning grant, are likely to be well positioned with the plan, commitments, data, and demonstrated organizational leadership and capacity necessary to develop a quality application for an implementation grant.